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Good morning Sen. Moore, Rep. Luxenberg, and members of the Housing Committee. I would like to express my support for HB 6633, AN ACT CONCERNING A NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND FAIR SHARE PLANS FOR MUNICIPALITIES TO INCREASE AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

It is undeniable that the State of Connecticut does not have sufficient housing for its population and that this housing shortage is even more dire for residents in need of affordable housing. The fair share housing plan attempts to remedy these problems and to focus on the equity issues that have long beset housing in Connecticut.

HB 6633 defines a process by which OPM would use existing data to create a proxy for specific affordable housing needs across the state and to establish data driven housing targets and goals. It would empower towns to develop and implement housing plans that make sense for the specific communities and allow municipal and statewide leaders in CT to be held accountable for plan implementation.

While HB 6633 would not resolve all of the housing issues in our state, it would increase access to housing and begin to address the housing equity issues that have been left unsolved to too long. Thank you for hearing this important legislation